

CERCA Meeting
Tuesday, September 11, 2007
1:30—3:00 p.m.
Ivy Walk Apartments

Present: Georgia Smith, Chesterfield Police Support; Cathy Clement, Ann Vargo, Linda Jackson Cole, Chesterfield Cooperative Extension; Dawn Morris, Chesterfield Victim/Witness Services; Peter Vonderlippe, American Red Cross; Ted Brown, Boy Scouts of America; Maria Hernandez, Refugee and Immigration Services; Paz Ochs, City of Richmond Hispanic Liaison Office; Ann Muttart, Falling Creek Elementary School; Lee Archer, Chesterfield Mental Health Prevention Services;

Summer Activities

The CERCA Coalition reconvened after the summer break. Ann V. shared information on some of the summer activities that occurred at both Dupont Village Learning Center and at Ivy Walk Apartments. Below is a summary.

Dupont Village Apartments

Dupont Village Learning Center: A summer program was held for the youth of the neighborhood. Activities included—Reading Club, 4-H Arts and Crafts for exhibit at the Chesterfield County Fair, Kids and Money, Computer Fun and Recreational Activities. A field trip was also conducted to the Science Museum of Virginia. The Boy Scouts continued programming through out the summer and provided a camping experience for the boys.

Dupont Village Apartments also participated in National Night Out on August. 7. The event included games, information, and a cook out. McGruff paid a visit. Over 35 residents participated.

Ivy Walk Apartments

ESL Class—An English as a Second Language class was conducted from June—July at the apartments. Over 16 adults participated.

Mini Camp for Youth—this program was conducted for the youth of the community, August 13-16. Activities included Nutrition, Reading Club, Safety, Nature and the Outdoors and Arts and Crafts. Nine youth and 1 adult attended. Most students participated every day.

Boy Scouts continued through out the summer.

Fall Activities

Ann shared that she is in the process of planning programs for the fall in both Dupont Village and Ivy Walk.

All interested service providers are encouraged to contact Ann V. to schedule a program for either community.

Current fall plans for Dupont Village include:

Activities for Youth

Boy Scouts meets on Friday evenings 5:30-6:30p.m.

4-H Club-Tuesdays, 4-5 p.m.

Library Reading Club, 4-5 p.m.

Homework Help/Dupont Oscars, 4-5 p.m.

Other speakers TBA

Activities for Adults

MoneyWise for Adults, Tuesday, Sept. 25, 6:30 p.m.

2-1-1 Resources, Date TBA

Other Programs TBA

Special Community Activities for Dupont Village include:

Family Day/Dupont Oscars (recognize report cards) --

Monday, November 19, 4-6 p.m.

December Holiday Event—Thursday, December 13, 3-5 p.m.

Volunteers – Ann V. distributed flyers with information of volunteer needs at Dupont Village.

Current Fall Plans for Ivy Walk

Moms and Tots—Wednesday mornings-- program for adults and their preschoolers, 10:30-12 noon a.m.

Boy Scouts—Continues on Tuesday evenings, 5:30—6:30 p.m.

Meeting Youth at the Bus Stop—the Coalition suggested doing

This once per month to promote programs. Provide treat bags and promotional materials to youth to give to their parents. Dates: Oct. 15, 2:30—4:15 p.m.

December Holiday Event—meet with Stephani/manager to decide date and what to do.

Christmas/Holiday Assistance

Ann V. shared that as she gets information regarding Christmas/Holiday Assistance, she will pass that information on to the communities. Resources include the Christmas Mother in Chesterfield and the Salvation Army. Ann Muttart also shared that Falling Creek Elementary School has an Angel Tree for needy families of students at that school. Referrals can be made to Ann Muttart, 743-3630

Announcements

Paz shared information that Spanish Classes will be conducted at Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church, beginning Saturday, Sept. 15. The classes run from 8:00 a.m.—10 a.m. For more information, call Norma Aguilar at 276-4628.

Paz also shared that she is participating in a walk to sponsor the American Lung Association of Virginia on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007. Her team, the “Asthmatadors” represents the Latin community and are looking for other participants and/or donations. For more information, contact Paz at 646-0145.

Ann also shared that she is starting to get requests to do programs at other apartment communities. Ann shared that she will gather more information from some of these places and determine if they can provide any meeting space.

Maria shared that it would be helpful for next year to host a workshop for parents on how to complete back to school forms required by the school at the beginning of the year. Many parents, she reported have difficulty completing these forms.

Maria also shared that the Goodwill Inc. is interested in working with groups to provide job training resources. The new contact is Boyd Headley. Ann V. will contact him.

Ted shared that all Boy Scout Troops will be hosting the Popcorn Fundraiser this year. This includes the troops at Ivy Walk and Dupont Village.

Holiday Event for CERCA Partners

The Coalition selected Tuesday, Dec. 4 as the date for its annual Holiday Luncheon. Ann will check on several restaurants and let everyone know a location. For now, keep 12-2 open on that date if possible.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of CERCA will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 1:30—3:00 p.m. at Ivy Walk Apartments.